and Boundaries Act have not been completed and that sketches for the fields offered as security might be obtained from the Survey Party concerned and the further formalities under the Survey and Boundaries Act observed by the Revenue Department and the survey finalized, so that the applicants for loans in such cases may get the benefit of not paying the cost of survey excepting the cost of demarcation. It will therefore be seen that Board's Proceedings in question only extended a concession to the ryots in the taken-over villages. The allegation of the hon. Member that a large number of loan applications had been rejected after the issue of the Board's Proceedings cannot therefore be correct. It is reported that at present survey has been completed in 23 villages out of 108 taken over in Udaiyarpalayam taluk. These 23 villages will be getting the concession referred to.

The question of relaxing the rules and permitting the acceptance of unsurveyed lands as security on the analogy of the procedure followed in the cyclone-affected areas is also separately under consideration.

IV.—EXPUNCTION OF SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN'S REMARKS ABOUT KATTA BOMMAN.

MR. SPEAKER : I have received a letter signed by seven hon. Members of this House requesting me to call upon the hon. Member for Pudukkottai to withdraw certain words used by him regarding Katta Bomman. I cannot direct the hon. Member for Pudukkottai to withdraw what he said under rule 227 of the Madras Assembly Rules. I can only order the expunction of those words which are regarded as offensive from the official report of the proceedings of this House, if they are defamatory, indecent, unparliamentary or undignified.

On the 26th September a question was put by an hon. Member as to whether the Government have made representations to the Union Government for the construction of an air base in Ramanathapuram district in the name of Katta Bomman, the idea being that his name as a great national hero should be perpetuated. The hon. Member for Pudukkottai in a supplementary question used words which were calculated to characterise Katta Bomman as a disreputable person, but he was careful to mention that he was stating it on reliable information. The words used in themselves may not be regarded as unparliamentary, but the question is whether in the context in which they were used they were unparliamentary. There is no doubt that Katta Bomman is esteemed as a great hero by a large section of the people of this State. That the sentiments and feelings, the pride and the patriotism of some of the members have been stirred is clear from the letter that I have received. It may be that the hon. Member for Pudukkottai could with impunity use these expression in a public platform or in the press, but the question is whether they could be regarded as unparliamentary in

this House. It is essential that in Parliament every effort should be made to respect the feelings and sentiments or even the provincial patriotism of the Members of the House or a section thereof and that nothing should be said which would wound their feelings and sentiments. Strong words are used and are allowed to be used in Parliament to indicate political differences, ideologies and loyalties. Nevertheless the healthy convention of not referring to historical personalities in terms which may create emotional excitement in the minds of a group of the Members of the House or injure their sense of pride and patriotism should be developed with fostering care. Mutual respect for the feelings and sentiments of the Members of the House, mutual courtesies in expression and behaviour and a spirit of comradeship are some of the basic requisites for the working of a parliamentary institution. For, after all, parliamentary rules, practices and conventions exist to facilitate the transaction of business in an atmosphere of friendliness and to promote co-operation and harmony. The philosophy of parliamentary law is constructive.

I am sure the hon. Member for Pudukkottai never intended to say that Katta Bomman was a person of disreputable character but only wanted the house to look into the other side of the picture. I am conscious however that several Members of the House feel aggrieved at the use of those words in reference to Katta Bomman. Words, phrases and expressions which are calculated to lower the reputation or the honour of historical personalities and which are likely to wound the sentiments and susceptibilities of some at least of the Members of the House will be regarded as unparliamentary. The words used by the hon. Member for Pudukkottai are likely to provoke controversies and ill-feelings among some of the Members. As it is the duty of the Chair to prevent it, I have directed the words used by the hon. Member for Pudukkottai against Katta Bomman to be expunged from the official report of the proceedings of the House as being offensive and unparliamentary and all consequential alterations made in such report.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, while bowing to your directions, since it has no personal connection with me because I have not been called upon to withdraw what I said, may I know whether I will be permitted to have my say about what was really at the back of my mind?

MR. SPEAKER : I have already said that you had absolutely no malice and no intention to generate any ill-feeling among the Members and that you only wanted the other side of the picture to be placed before the House. All that has been stated. But, for the reasons that I have given in my statement. I do not think it is necessary nor is it proper to have a discussion on this matter after I have given my ruling and directed the expunction of those words.

We now pass on to the next item on the agenda.